

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL No.: EL 990504817 US
APPLICANT(s): Charroppin
SERIAL NO.: To Be Assigned ART UNIT:
FILING DATE: Herewith EXAMINER:
TITLE: SEPARATOR DEVICE FOR FRANKING MACHINE
FEEDER
ATTORNEY DOCKET
NO.: 945-011666-US (PCT)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1))

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed together with the above-identified patent application. Thus, a certification under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) is not required for the information herein to be considered.

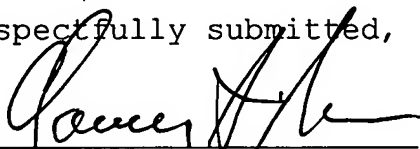
The following information is being disclosed to the Patent and Trademark Office as information that may be material to the examination of the above-identified patent application.

The above-identified patent application claims priority to French Patent Application No. FR 03 00705 filed January 23, 2003. Applicants' attorney encloses a copy of a French Search Report issued on the priority French Patent Application No. FR 03 00705. The Search Report cited US Patent No. 4,776,152, US Patent No. 4,364,142, US Patent No. 4,450,037, European Patent No. EP 0 376 506 and US Patent No. 5,665,198. Applicants' attorney is also aware of the following French patent application that was cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application: FR Application No. 01 16680.

The filing of this Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made regarding the claimed invention (37 C.F.R. §1.97(g)) or that no other possible material information exists. In addition, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 C.F.R. §1.97(h)).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



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22 January 2004
Date

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION FORM FOR PATENT APPLICATION (FORM PTO-1449) (Substitute)			Docket No.: 945-011666-US (PCT) Applicant(s): Charroppin Filing Date: Herewith		Serial No.: To Be Assigned Group:	
U.S. PATENTS						
Initials	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing date
	4,776,152 4,364,142 4,450,037 5,665,198	10/11/88 12/21/82 05/22/84 09/09/97	Kruk Pangle Gavronsky Bieber et al.	53 15 156 156	492 117 441.5 578	
U.S. PATENT PUBLICATIONS						
Initials	Publication No.	Pub. Date	Name	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Name	Translation? Yes/No/n/a	
	EP 0376506	07/04/90	Europe	Pitney Bowes.	no	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Title, Author, Date, Pages, Etc., if known)						
Examiner's Signature: _____				Date Considered: _____		

Initial if reference was considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP. Mark through citation if not considered.
Include a copy of this citation form with your next correspondence to the Applicant(s).